

News Release

Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District
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For Immediate Release

Eastern Washington BLM Advisory Council to Fill Six Positions

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking applicants for six positions on its Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council (RAC). The RAC advises and recommends management strategies for Federal lands east of the Cascade Range administered by BLM and the U.S. Forest Service. The nomination period ends **April 21, 2003**.

The six positions being recruited are: local elected official, dispersed recreation, Indian tribes, public-at-large, state employee in natural resource field, and environmental. Five of these are full 3-year term positions, to start in October. The environment/conservation position would serve the remainder of the 3-year term. Recruitment for the environmental position was recently extended to April 21.

Council members are unpaid, but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses to attend meetings generally held quarterly within the RAC's geographic area. The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires RAC membership to be balanced and represent the various interests concerned with public land management. The RACs are an integral part of land management for federal agencies. The Eastern Washington RAC addresses resources located in whole or in part within the Spokane District of the BLM and the Colville and Okanogan National Forests.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others, and current members whose terms will expire can be renominated. Candidates for the EWRAC must reside in Washington. For a nomination form or additional information, contact Pam Robbins, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon, 97208, (503) 808-6306, or the Spokane BLM District Office at (509) 536-1200.

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages more land -- 262 million surface acres -- than any other federal agency. Of this BLM-managed public land, about 164 million acres are permitted for livestock grazing. Most of the country's BLM-managed public land is located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. BLM, which has a budget of \$1.8 billion and a workforce of 10,000 employees, also administers 700 million acres of subsurface mineral-estate throughout the Nation. The BLM's "multiple-use" mission is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. BLM accomplishes this by managing for such resources as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, and energy and mineral development that helps meet the Nation's energy needs, and by conserving natural, historic, cultural and other resources on the public lands.

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